

To: Casillas, Laura[Casillas.Laura@epa.gov]; Linden, melissa[linden.melissa@epa.gov]
From: Matlock, Dennis
Sent: Fri 1/10/2014 10:56:38 PM
Subject: Re: Need your input on site abstract before public posting.

Laura thanks. See below
Put 4- in front of meth.....
9 counties affected
100k customers
Approx 300k total residents

From: Casillas, Laura
Sent: Friday, January 10, 2014 5:36:22 PM
To: Kelly, Jack (R3 Phila.); Burns, Francis; Linden, melissa; Matlock, Dennis; Wisniewski, Patti-Kay; Wright, Dave
Subject: Need your input on site abstract before public posting.

Guys-please take 5 to revise this wording for the intro of the webpage—I'd like to make it public ASAP to dispel potential miscommunication. I already told army corp. and FEMA about the webpage so I want to at least get the background up and running publicly while the polreps/sitreps will be at your discretion Dennis and Melissa. I'm keeping it general. Will be posted on www.epaosc.org/CharlestonWVChemicalLeak

Fred: I will give you full access to the site—please update with relevant FEMA links or Sit REPS, and give access to the next watch stander that relieves you to do the same. Thanks. For now Melissa agreed to serve in a situation unit role, she will keep watch standers up to date on happenings on the ground. They need to keep in touch with her.

SITE ABSTRACT:

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) discovered a chemical spill the afternoon of Thursday January 9th when investigating an odor complaint at Freedom Industries, which is the old Pennzoil Refinery.

The spilled chemical was methylcyclohexane, which is used in coal preparation and processing. Spill into the ELK River occurred sometime earlier in the day and there was an early report of an odor. The Gov of WV declared a state of emergency for at least five counties. The Kanawha Valley Water Treatment Plant detected the chemical even after the increased carbon treatment effort.

WV issued an order to not drink cook or bathe in the water, which affects approximately 100,000 people. WV is conducting additional water sampling. The Civil Support Team is also deployed to the WVEOC to assist in supplying water to residents. West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection is the lead for this incident and EPA On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) are on-scene supporting them in their investigation.

EPA On Scene coordinators have the capabilities to bring a variety of emergency response services to a response in support of local municipalities--from health advice support to actual cleanup. The EPA OSC would make that decision as the assessment progresses and in consultation with and support of our client, WVDEP. OSCs are consulting with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) public health professionals on best approaches to safeguard human health—this is a regular part of business for EPA Emergency Response.

EPA OSCs are also maintaining EPA personnel assigned 24-7 as watch standers (liaisons to FEMA) to the FEMA Regional Office (FEMA Region 3) informed of the work and needs on the ground.

Additional information about operations will be made available through the POLREP/SITREP section of this website (Pollution Report/Situation Report) as the response progresses.

Laura Casillas, Federal On-Scene Coordinator

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